

AS

|                               |                   |                   |  |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|
| <b>Notice of Allowability</b> | Application No.   | Applicant(s)      |  |
|                               | 10/076,161        | HANKS, GARY DAVID |  |
|                               | Examiner          | Art Unit          |  |
|                               | Christopher Upton | 1724              |  |

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to Amendment filed September 17, 2003.
2.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 3,5,9,11-14,19 and 21-30.
3.  The drawings filed on 14 February 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a)  All
  - b)  Some\*
  - c)  None
  1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

5.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
  - (a)  The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE**

7.  A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.
  - (a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
    - 1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b)  including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed \_\_\_\_\_, which has been approved by the Examiner.
  - (c)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.

**Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet.**

9.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. _____.              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other   |

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

In claim 3, line 6, after "axis", --as the baffles approach said outlet port— has been inserted.

In claim 11, line 1, after "wherein", --said plurality of separation flow plates has a top surface, said top surface having a plurality of layered subplates, and wherein— has been inserted.

In claim 21, line 1, after "wherein", --said each of said fluid separation plates is composed of a plurality of subplates, and wherein— has been inserted.

Withdrawn claims 1, 2, 4, 6-8, 10, 15-18, 20 and 31 have been canceled.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ms. Laura Hagan on November 3, 2003.



CHRISTOPHER UPTON  
PRIMARY EXAMINER